

be as speedy and complete as it will be of honorable and i: mortal consolation to yourself, I shall as fervently and sincen pray as I assure you of my great friendship and respect. (' Edward Coles, 1814. F. IX., 477.)

SLAVERY.—This momentous question, like a fire-bell in t night, awakened and filled me with terror. I considered it at on as the knell of the Union. It is hushed indeed for the momei But this is a reprieve only, not a final sentence. A geographic line, coinciding with a marked principle, moral and politic once conceived and held up to the angry passions of men, w never be obliterated; and every new irritation will mark it deep and deeper. I can say, with conscious truth, that there is n a man on earth who would sacrifice more than I would to relie us from this heavy reproach, in any practicable way. T] cession of that kind of property, for so it is misnamed, is bagatelle which would not cost me a second thought, if, in th way, a general emancipation and expatriation could be effecte and, gradually, and with due sacrifices, I think it might be. Bi as it is, we have the wolf by the ears, and we can neither ho him, nor safely let him go. Justice is in one scale, and sel preservation in the other. (To John Holmes, 1820. C. VI] I59-)

SOUTH AMERICA.—The Southern provinces, I fear, must er in military despotisms. The different castes of their inhal itants, their mutual hatreds and jealousies, their profound igno ance and bigotry will be played off by cunning leaders, an each be made the instrument of enslaving the other. But of a this, you can best judge, for in truth we have little knowledg of them to be depended on, but through you. But in whatev* governments they end they will .be *American* governments, r longer to be involved in the never-ceasing broils of Europe. T] European nations constitute a separate division of the globe; the localities make them part of a distinct system; they have a set c interests of their own in which it is our business never to engag ourselves. America has a hemisphere to itself. It must have il separate system of interests, which must not be subordinate t those of Europe. The insulated state in which nature has place